

DETAILED ACTION

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Greg Thorne on 12/30/2008. The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

In Claim 1, add the phrase --, **wherein the first address reference is a hop count and wherein the second address reference is a MAC destination address**-- before the period that signifies the end of the claim.

In Claim 6, add the phrase --; **wherein the first address reference is a hop count and wherein the second address reference is a MAC destination address**-- before the period that signifies the end of the claim.

In Claim 11, add the phrase --, **wherein the first address reference is a hop count and wherein the second address reference is a MAC destination address**-- before the period that signifies the end of the claim.

In Claim 12, add the phrase --, **wherein the first address reference is a hop count and wherein the second address reference is a MAC destination address**-- before the period that signifies the end of the claim.

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In Claim 13, add the phrase --; **wherein the first address reference is a hop count and wherein the second address reference is a MAC destination address**-- before the period that signifies the end of the claim.

In Claim 15, add the phrase --; **wherein the first address reference is a hop count and wherein the second address reference is a MAC destination address**-- before the period that signifies the end of the claim.

In Claim 16, add the phrase --; **wherein the first address reference is a hop count and wherein the second address reference is a MAC destination address**-- before the period that signifies the end of the claim.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-13 and 15-16 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
4. In regards to claims 1, 6, 11-13 and 15-16, the cited prior art either individually or in combination fails to teach, replacing a reference to a network hop count with a MAC destination address.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAY P. PATEL whose telephone number is (571)272-3086. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00 am - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edan Orgad can be reached on (571) 272-7884. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jay P. Patel
Examiner
Art Unit 2419

/Edan Orgad/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2419